

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

For immediate release June 7, 2005

Contact: Marcella Williamson (804) 726-7105 Charles Ingram (804) 726-7119

Virginia announces 'Most Wanted' child support evaders -- 10 men, one woman owe \$493,416 --

RICHMOND - - Virginia Department of Social Services (VDSS) Commissioner Anthony Conyers Jr. has released the latest "Most Wanted" poster profiling Virginia's 11 most egregious child support evaders.

This year's poster features 10 men and one woman who owe a combined total of \$493,416 in past-due child support to their children. The poster contains each person's photograph, physical description, last known address, occupation and the amount of child support they owe.

"We want parents to be financially responsible for their children," Conyers said. "We find that non-custodial parents who pay child support are more involved with their children. That involvement translates into additional emotional support for their children. Children are the beneficiaries."

The individuals profiled include a laborer who owes one child \$103,094, a carnival worker who owes his four children \$59,337, a construction worker who owes his two children more than \$91,000, and a woman cashier who owes her child \$12,351.

Being listed on the poster is the last resort in cases where other attempts at child support enforcement action have failed.

VDSS Division of Child Support Enforcement Director Nick Young said, "In the past, these posters have proven effective in obtaining information from the public regarding the whereabouts, employment and financial situation of those listed. We are asking for the public's help. We want people to come forward with any information they have that could lead to the location and arrest of these child support evaders."

This the 19th poster to be issued since the agency's program began in 1989.

Last year, DCSE collected a record \$534 million in child support benefiting one-quarter of the children in Virginia.

If you have any information regarding the location or employment of these parents, please call toll free 1 (800) 257-9986.

The "Most Wanted" poster is featured at http://www.dss.state.va.us/family/wanted.html.

###